

FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: April 14, 2011

Agenda Item: Kilbrennan Lake and Alvord Lake Administrative Rule

Division: Enforcement

Action Needed: Approval of Final Rule/Action

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

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Background

Both lakes are small in size, just over the 35-acre minimum for no-wake restrictions. The lakes are almost exclusively used as fishing lakes. Both lakes have primitive USFS boat launch facilities. A very narrow open water use opportunity exists outside of the 200-foot no wake regulations for western lakes on each lake already for uses such as waterskiing. Recent complaints by the majority of the recreational users of the lakes have been directed at eliminating the very small opportunities that disrupt the main recreational use of the lake.

The commission approved proposing adoption of the restrictions on Alvord Lake and Kilbrennan Lake at the January 13, 2011 meeting.

Public Involvement Process & Results

The USFS has worked to gather signatures and explain their reasons for requesting this rule change early in the process. Local sporting clubs and businesses have been contacted. County commissioners and the public have all expressed a very favorable response to implementing the rule change. A public meeting was held on February 23 in Troy and two public comments were received. Eight people submitted written comment and all comments are in favor of the proposal. No opposition.

Alternatives and Analysis

No rule change would continue to cause conflicts to the anglers and the recreational users while providing a very minimal and limited waterskiing benefit that can be found at lakes with better roads and access closer to the towns of Troy and Libby.

Adopting the proposed rule would address concerns of petitioners and the public.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

FWP recommends that the commission adopt the proposed rule change. It will greatly improve the anglers' and recreational users' experience as well as clear up just how boaters are to operate on the entire two lakes. It will create a safer and more enjoyable opportunity while not limiting the user's boat or motor size, only the boats speed.

Proposed Motion

I move the commission adopt the proposed rule establishing a controlled no wake speed as defined by ARM 12.11.101 for Kilbrennan Lake and Alvord Lake located in Lincoln County.
